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SKEGNESS URBAN DISTRICT  
COUNCIL

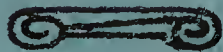


# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer  
of Health

For the Year 1952



BOSTON :  
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# SKEGNESS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## Annual Report

of the

## Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1952.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Skegness Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Eighteenth Annual Report.

### Statistics.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	4,411.788
Number of inhabited houses 1952	...	...	...	...	...	3,722
Rateable Value, 31st December, 1952	...	...	...	...	...	£133,797
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£533
Population	...	...	...	...	...	12,554

### Extracts from Vital Statistics during the Year.

	Total		Males		Females
Births	236	...	118	...	118
Deaths	137	...	68	...	69
Birth Rate	18.8	...	Death Rate	10.9	
Number of Women dying in consequence of childbirth	{		from Sepsis	...	Nil
	{		from other causes		Nil
Deaths of infants under one year of age	...	...	...	...	6
Infant Mortality Rate	...	...	...	...	25.4
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	18
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoeæ (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	Nil
„ „ Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	Nil
„ „ Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	1



**Notifiable Diseases** (other than Tuberculosis) during the year. The figures are:—

			Total cases notified.		Cases admitted to Hospital.		Total Deaths.
Dysentery	...	...	Nil	...	Nil	...	Nil
Scarlet Fever	...	...	11	...	Nil	...	Nil
Diphtheria	...	...	Nil	...	Nil	...	Nil
Erysipelas	...	...	1	...	Nil	...	Nil
Pneumonia	...	...	1	...	Nil	...	Nil
Measles	...	...	8	...	Nil	...	Nil
Cerebro-Spinal-Fever			Nil	..	Nil	...	Nil
Malaria	...	...	Nil	...	Nil	...	Nil
Poliomyelitis	...	...	1	...	Nil	...	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	1	...	Nil	...	Nil
Whooping Cough	...	...	4	...	Nil	...	Nil
Meningitis	...	...	Nil	...	Nil	...	Nil
			<hr/> 27 <hr/>	...	<hr/> Nil <hr/>	...	<hr/> Nil <hr/>

### **Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

There were no cases notified during the year.

### **Public Health Officers of the Authority.**

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. D. Fraser Menzies, M.B., Ch.B. (St. And.).

Sanitary Inspector: S. James, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., A.M.Inst.P.C.

Additional Sanitary Inspector: G. W. Robinson, C.R.S.I.

### **CECIL AVENUE INFANT WELFARE CLINIC.**

The Infant Welfare Clinic is held each Friday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Dr. Caton and two Health Visitors are in attendance to give professional advice. All other duties are carried out by the Voluntary Committee. Mothers and their babies are entered in the Attendance Register, the babies are weighed and a record is kept of their weight each week. Tea is provided during the afternoon for those who are waiting either to have baby weighed or to see Doctor. Dried Milk, Baby Foods and Cereals are sold at cost price, Cod Liver Oil and Orange Juice are also dispensed. 241 Mothers and 265 Children were registered during the year.

## **WINTHORPE INFANT WELFARE CLINIC.**

In January, 1952, a Clinic was opened in the Hall at the rear of the Chapel on Roman Bank, Winthorpe, for the benefit of the families now living on the new Council Housing Estate.

The Clinic is held on the 2nd and 4th Fridays in the month from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

The Health Visitor and two members of the Voluntary Committee are in attendance.

Babies are weighed and a record is kept of their progress.

Mothers are able to purchase Baby Foods and Cereals, Cod Liver Oil, Orange Juice.

There have been, on an average, 14 Mothers and 18 Children at each Clinic.

**Immunisation and Vaccination** by Clinic Doctor each Friday.

I am indebted to Mrs. D. T. Edwards for this excellent report and for which I tender my grateful thanks. I also wish to thank the nurses and Committee of the Association for their excellent work throughout the year. Immunisation and Vaccination are also carried out by all Medical Practitioners in the town.

## **HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.**

Arrangements are made to send infectious cases to the Isolation Hospitals at Boston, Lincoln or Grimsby.

The Regional Hospital Board has arranged for the regular attendance at Skegness and District Hospital for out-patient clinics, of a Physician, Surgeon, Orthopædic Surgeon, Gynecologist, Cadeologist, Paediatrician and Radiologist. An Ophthalmologist attends at the Clinic, Cecil Avenue, on 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. There is also a department for Physiotherapy. There is a great need for more Hospital accommodation for the aged and chronic sick.

## **Venereal Diseases.**

There is a local centre for the treatment of venereal diseases and sessions are held each week on Thursday evenings.

## **Tuberculosis.**

The County Council provide for the treatment of tuberculosis. A clinic for this purpose is established at Skegness, and sessions are held each Tuesday afternoon. An arrangement, whereby cases of

suspected tuberculosis can be X-Rayed at Skegness Hospital has proved most convenient and beneficial to the residents of Skegness.

## **GENERAL HEALTH.**

There is nothing outstanding to report as the general health of the town has been most satisfactory.

## **DAY NURSERY.**

The Nursery was open during the summer months and accommodated children from one to five years of age. The nursery is now carried on by Councillor Mrs. E. Barratt in a voluntary capacity and in her very capable hands is very successful. I think Mrs. Barratt's efforts in this direction are to be highly commended.

## **Scavenging.**

The removal and disposal of house and trade refuse and the cleansing of earth closets, privies and cesspools in the area is carried out by the Council, and is under the direct supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

Salvage work requires constant thought and attention, and excellent results were obtained during the year from this source.

## **Sanitary Inspection of the Area.**

A classified statement of the number of premises visited, the defects or nuisances discovered, and the action, or result of action taken in regard to these will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

## **Schools.**

The sanitary conditions and water supply at the public elementary schools are good.

The County School Medical Officer regularly inspects the Schools and the children. Any treatment required can be obtained through the medical practitioners in the town and through the various schemes provided by the Education Committee.

## **Shops Act.**

Inspections are made from time to time and the action taken will be found in the tabulated report.

## **Housing.**

I am pleased to note that your Council is making good progress with the building of new houses. More houses have been erected during the year. The urgent need is for more houses, including those for aged persons.



## Report on Housing Acts Inspections.

The number of inspections made and the action taken will be found in the tabulated report.

## Water Supply.

A plentiful supply of wholesome water is obtained from the Candlesby and Welton boreholes.

On analysis this water is found to be of excellent quality and purity.

Laboratory Report No. 5703.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER REPORT.

The sample of water marked Town Hall Tap collected on 3.3.52 has been examined, and with the following results :—

Agar plate count, at 20°—22°C, for three days ...	=	3 per ml.
Agar plate count, at 37°C, for two days ... ..	=	1 per ml.
Faecal coli ... ..		not found in 100 ml.
Probable number of coliform bacilli ...		none per 100 ml.
Enterococci ... ..		not found in 100 ml.
Cl. welchii (spores) ... ..		not found in 100 ml.

The results show this water to be highly satisfactory for drinking purposes.

(Signed) R. S. RALPH,

M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,

Laboratory Director.

**1.—INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	1	7	9	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	85	103	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority † (excluding out-workers' premises) .. .. .	3	5	5	—	—
Total ..	6	97	117	2	—

**2.—DEFECTS FOUND.**

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found			
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1) .. .. .		1	1		
Overcrowding (S.2) .. .. .		—	—		
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) .. .. .		—	—		
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) .. .. .		—	—		
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .. .. .		—	—		
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient .. .. .		1	1	—	
(b) Unsuitable or defective .. .. .		—	—	—	
(c) Not separate for sexes .. .. .		—	—	—	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) .. .. .		—	—		—
Total ..		2	2	—	—



**Meat and Food.**

There is one Ministry of Food Abattoir in this Urban Area, and visits are paid by your Council's Meat Inspectors during hours of slaughter. A detailed report of the number of animals killed and the action taken with respect to the number of animals inspected and the meat condemned as unfit for human consumption, will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report. The area served by this Abattoir is the Urban Area, the Urban Area of Mablethorpe and parts of the Spilsby Rural District, the population being served approximately 50,000. Shops, stalls and other premises where food is prepared have been regularly inspected and records kept.

**Milk Supply.**

I consider the milk supply in this town is excellent. With the exception of approximately fifty gallons per day, all the milk sold is Heat Treated or Tuberculin Tested.

The following licences were granted during the year:—

Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	...	7
Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	4
Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	4

Six samples of milk submitted for biological examination gave a negative result. Six samples of milk gave satisfactory results.

**Ice Cream.**

Twenty-four samples of ice cream were sent to the Analyst, who reports on the samples as follows:—

Grade I — II	...	Grade II —	6
Grade III —	4	Grade IV —	3

Regular visits are made to premises where ice cream is manufactured or sold by retail, and help and advice given where necessary.

**Bakehouses.**

There are no underground bakehouses in the area. All the bakehouses are of a good type, clean and well kept, and give little or no cause for complaint.

**Sale of Food and Drugs.**

This work is carried out by the County Council.

## Swimming Pools.

Copy of Analysis, Skegness Bathing Pool:—

### BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER REPORT.

17-6-52.

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days—

37°C. 1 per 100 ml.

Probable number of faecal coli ... 1 per 100 ml.

Other Examinations: No Staph. aureus isolated.

## Factories.

The work carried on is chiefly dressmaking and millinery, joinery, motor and cycle repairs, photography and upholstery.

On the whole these places are well kept. It is only on occasions that it is necessary to take any action with regard to them.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. FRASER MENZIES, M.B., Ch.B. (St. And.),  
Medical Officer of Health.

# Sanitary Administration :

Report of work done by Sanitary Inspector for the year 1952.

<b>Total No. of New Houses Erected during the Year</b> ...	53
(I.) By the Local Authority ... ..	40
(II.) By other Local Authorities ... ..	—
(III.) By other bodies or persons ... ..	13
<b>1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:—</b>	
(I.) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	85
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	235
(2) (a) No. of dwelling-houses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	—
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	—
(3) No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	2
(4) No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	83
<b>2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :—</b>	
No. of Defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	74



### 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 36 of the Housing Acts, 1936 :—	
(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	2
(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners ... ..	2
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	9
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners ... ..	9
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil
(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	Nil
(2) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	Nil
(3) No. of dwelling-houses subject to undertakings ... ..	2
(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	Nil
(2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit ... ..	Nil

(e)	Proceedings under Sections 25 and 26:—	
(1)	No. of Clearance Orders made ...	Nil
(2)	No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance thereof ...	Nil

#### HOUSING ACT, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding.

(a)	(I)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ...	
	(II)	Number of families dwelling therein ...	
	(III)	Number of persons dwelling therein ...	
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ...	
(c)	(I)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ...	
	(II)	Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	
(d)		Number of houses again overcrowded after being previously relieved ...	

#### HOUSING ACT, 1949.

(a)	No. of applications for grants received ...	Nil
(b)	No. of grants made ...	Nil
(c)	No. of applications for grants made by Local Authority ...	Nil

#### Movable Dwellings, Tents, Vans, etc.—

No. of site licences ...	14
No. of individual licences ...	Nil
No. inspected during year—Sites ...	21
	Dwellings
No. of contraventions remedied ...	7

#### FOOD PREMISES.

##### Bakehouses—

No. in district ...	9
†No. of inspections ...	36
No. of contraventions ...	3
Defects remedied ...	3

##### Control of Milk Supplies—

No. of distributors on register	...	...	...	47
No. of dairies on register	...	...	...	4
No. of Inspections of dairies	...	...	...	19
Contraventions remedied	...	...	...	1
No. of milk samples taken : Satisfactory	...	...	...	6
Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	Nil

### Ice Cream and Meat Products—

No. of manufacturers : (a) Ice Cream ... ..	12
(b) Meat Products ... ..	17
No. of premises registered for sale of Ice Cream ...	104
No. of Contraventions found ... ..	
No. of Contraventions remedied ... ..	
No. of samples of ice-cream taken Grade I ... ..	11
Grade II ... ..	6
Grade III ... ..	4
Grade IV ... ..	3

(Six Samples were lost in transit.)

### Slaughter-houses—

No. on register ... ..	Government Slaughter House
†No. of inspections ... ..	Daily
Contraventions of by-laws ... ..	Nil
Defects remedied ... ..	Nil

### Other Food Premises—

No. of inspections ... ..	83
No. of Contraventions found ... ..	11
No. of Contraventions remedied ... ..	11

### Unsound Food.

#### Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ..	1841	717	734	6441	2354
Number inspected .. ..	1841	717	734	6441	2354
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</b>					
Whole carcases condemned	7	27	21	21	68
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	123	95	11	135	257
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis .. .. .	7.0	17.0	4.5	2.4	14.0
<b>Tuberculosis only.</b>					
Whole carcases condemned	23	18	1	—	17
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	279	174	1	—	103
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis .. .. .	11.5	28.2	0.27	Nil	5.2



## Other Foods Condemned

Tinned Goods .. ..	1,218	Cooked Ham .. ..	12 lbs.
Geese .. ..	4	Savoury Ducks .. ..	72
Desiccated Coconut ..	1 Carton	Fish Cakes .. ..	28 lbs.
Fish .. ..	31 st.	Milk Powders .. ..	112 lbs.
Pressed Pork .. ..	48 lbs.	Fruit Cake .. ..	12 lbs.
Processed Cheese .. ..	1 Carton	Christmas Puddings ..	24
Biscuits .. ..	35½ lbs.	Whipped Cream Walnuts	1½ doz.
Haslet .. ..	2 lbs.	Ground Rice .. ..	7 lbs.
Luncheon Meat .. ..	1 lb.	Prunes .. ..	39 lbs.
Pork Sausage .. ..	298 lbs.		

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

### Closets—

No. of houses with privy vaults in district ...	Nil
No. of houses with pail closets in district ...	29
No. of pail closets repaired ...	2
No. of water-closets substituted for dry receptacles	4
No. of houses with water-closets in district ...	3,693
No. of water-closets repaired ...	25

### Drains—

Drains examined, tested, exposed, &c. ...	30
„ unstopped, repaired, &c. ...	51
Waste, pipes, disconnected, repaired, &c. ...	11
Existing soil pipes, etc., renewed or repaired ...	5

### Sewers—

New lengths of sewer laid ...	
-------------------------------	--

### Tanks, Filter Beds, etc.—

Alterations to sewage disposal works ...	
Any inadequacy of sewage disposal works or complaints as to smells ...	

### Cesspools—

Cesspools emptied, cleansed, &c. ...	Weekly
„ abolished ...	Nil

## GENERAL.

### Offensive Trades—

No. of premises in district ...	Nil
†No. of Inspections ...	Nil
Contraventions of by-laws ...	Nil
Contraventions remedied ...	Nil

**Knackers Yards—**

No. Licensed	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
No. of Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Defects Remedied	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

**Shops Act, 1950—**

Number of shops inspected	...	...	...	...	27
Contraventions remedied	...	...	...	...	3

**WATER SUPPLY.****Wells—**

New sunk	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Closed as polluted	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

**Public Supply—**

*Area supplied ... ..	Whole Area
Percentage of houses internal supply ... ..	100%
communal supply ... ..	Nil
Number of samples obtained for analysis ... ..	
(a) from wells ... ..	Nil
(b) from public supply ... ..	3
Any insufficiency and where ... ..	Nil

**Disinfection, etc.—**

Rooms disinfected :						
(a) ordinary infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	15
(p) tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rooms stripped and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
No. of premises disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	6

**House Refuse—**

No. of houses using dustbins	...	...	...	...	3,722
Is refuse removed by householders or by public scavenger ?	...	...	...	...	By Council
How frequently is refuse removed from each house ?					Weekly
No. of complaints of non-removal	...	...	...	...	Practically Nil
Method of final disposal	...	...	...	...	Controlled Tip
Are existing arrangements for refuse removal satisfactory ?	...	...	...	...	Yes

## Nuisances—

Total Number of Nuisances during year :

(1)	Abated as result of informal action by Sanitary Inspector ... ..	92
(2)	Reported to Council, Statutory notice issued ... ..	1
	Statutory notice not issued ... ..	Nil

## Details of Nuisances abated—

	After Informal intimation	After Statutory Notice
Smoke ... ..	3	1
Accumulation of refuse ... ..	27	—
Foul ditches, ponds and stagnant water ... ..	Nil	—
Fowls, pigs and other animals	3	—
Dampness ... ..	54	—
Yards repaved or repaired ...	6	—
Other nuisances ... ..	—	—

## Rats and Mice Destruction—

No. of rodent operatives employed ... ..	One
No. of Premises treated :	
(a) Dwelling houses ... ..	836
(b) Other Premises ... ..	6
Are there any serious reservoirs of rats in district?	No

Supplementary remarks as to sanitary requirements of District, and extended notes from any of the foregoing entries :

Rodent Control Visits ... ..	31
Infectious Disease Visits ... ..	7
Miscellaneous Visits—including salvage and house refuse removal and disposal ... ..	285







